

Amendments to the Claims:

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A waterproof patient handset, comprising:
an enclosure having a front face;
a speaker contained within the enclosure, the enclosure comprising a plurality of holes sufficient to allow sound to pass from the speaker through the enclosure, the plurality of holes in the enclosure covering less than the entire front face of the enclosure; and
a foil placed on the enclosure over the holes, and attached to the enclosure at the foil's perimeter such that the foil seals the speaker against intrusion by a liquid, the foil covering only an area of the enclosure proximate to the plurality of holes in the enclosure.
2. (Original) The handset of claim 1, the foil acting as a second membrane for the speaker.
3. (Original) The handset of claim 1, the foil being round and being glued only at about the outer 2 to 3 mm of the foil.
4. (Original) The handset of claim 1, the enclosure having about thirty of said holes, each hole having a diameter of about 1 mm.
5. (Original) The handset of claim 1, further comprising:
a protection plate which sits between the enclosure and the speaker, providing mechanical protection for the speaker, the protection plate comprising a plurality of holes which allow the passage of sound, said holes being offset from the holes in the enclosure.
6. (Original) The handset of claim 5, the protection plate also serving as a magnetic shield.
7. (Original) The handset of claim 1, the enclosure comprising a first cover and a

second cover, the second cover having at least one boss which is inserted through a hole in a printed circuit board (PCB), the boss having a deformable rib.

8. (Original) The handset of claim 7, the PCB deforming the rib when the PCB is pressed with the first cover against the rib.

9. (Currently Amended) A waterproof patient handset, comprising:

an enclosure having a front face;

a speaker contained within the enclosure, the enclosure comprising a plurality of holes sufficient to allow sound to pass from the speaker through the enclosure, the plurality of holes in the enclosure covering less than the entire front face of the enclosure;

a foil placed on the enclosure over the holes, and attached to the enclosure at the foil's perimeter such that the foil acts as a second membrane for the speaker, the foil sealing the speaker against intrusion by a liquid, the foil covering only an area of the enclosure proximate to the plurality of holes in the enclosure; and

a magnetic shield located between the enclosure and the speaker, providing mechanical protection for the speaker, the magnetic shield comprising a plurality of holes which allow the passage of sound, said holes being offset from the holes in the enclosure.

10. (Original) The waterproof patient handset of claim 9, the enclosure comprising a first cover and a second cover, and the second cover having at least one boss which is inserted through a hole of a printed circuit board (PCB), said boss having at least one deformable rib which is deformed when the PCB is pressed with the first cover against the rib, until the first cover meets the boss.

11. (Currently Amended) A waterproof patient handset, comprising:

enclosure means having a front face;

audio means contained within the enclosure means, the enclosure means allowing sound to pass from the audio means through a plurality of holes in the enclosure means;

waterproofing means placed on the enclosure means, said waterproofing means covering only an area of the enclosure means proximate to the plurality of holes in the enclosure means and acting as a second membrane for the audio means; and

protection means located between the enclosure means and the audio means, providing mechanical protection for the audio means and allowing passage of sound from the audio means to the waterproofing means.

12. (Original) The waterproof patient handset of claim 11, the enclosure means comprising a front cover and a back cover, the back cover having fastening means which are deformed when a printed circuit board (PCB) is pressed with the front cover, the front cover being fastened to the back cover using said fastening means, the PCB being installed therein, such that the distance between a top surface of the PCB and the front cover is within a certain margin of error regardless of the PCB's thickness.

13. (Currently Amended) A method for waterproofing a patient handset, comprising:
enclosing a speaker within the handset;
providing a plurality of holes in the handset enclosure sufficient to allow sound to pass from the speaker through the enclosure; and
placing a foil only on a portion the enclosure proximate to the holes sufficient to cover ~~[[over]]~~ the holes by attaching the foil to the enclosure at the foil's perimeter such that the foil acts as a second membrane for the speaker, the foil sealing the speaker against intrusion by a liquid.

14. (Previously presented) The handset of claim 1, where a protection plate sits between the foil and the speaker.

15. (Previously presented) The handset of claim 8, where the boss comprises a plurality of deformable ribs.

16. (Previously presented) The handset of claim 1, where the foil is attached to the enclosure only at the perimeter of the foil.

17. (Previously presented) The waterproof patient handset of claim 9, where the foil is attached to the enclosure only at the perimeter of the foil.

18. (Previously presented) The method of claim 13, wherein the foil is attached to the enclosure only at the perimeter of the foil.

19. (Previously presented) The handset of claim 1, where the foil has a first side and a second side; and
where only the first side of the foil is connected to the enclosure.

20. (Previously presented) The handset of claim 19, where the enclosure has an exterior; and
where the first side is connected to the exterior of the enclosure.

21. (New) The handset of claim 1, where the foil is attached to the enclosure along an annular region of the foil.

22. (New) The handset of claim 21, where an inner portion of the foil is not attached to the enclosure and is free to vibrate, thereby acting as a second diaphragm for the speaker.